MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) In July 1936.

(*d*) This does not arise.

(*e*) No.

Importation of Ganja.

37. *MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): Will the Government be pleased to state the quantity and value of ganja imported during the years 1109, 1110 and 1111?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): A * statement containing the required information is laid on the table.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know from Government whether it is a fact that the ganja brought down from Madras is of a very inferior quality?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, Sir. The quality is good.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know, Sir, who is the officer responsible for selecting and purchasing ganja?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): One of the Inspectors is deputed for this.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know, Sir, whether these officers hold any special skill or knowledge in the line?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No special skill or knowledge is required to select good ganja from bad. These officers are well experienced in the line.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know, Sir, whether it is not an additional unnecessary expenditure to depute an officer to Madras for this purpose?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Good ganja should be selected and the stuff should be taken proper care of in transit.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know from Government the cost of the commodity brought down from Madras during 1111?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice, Sir.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know from Government whether there was not a fall in the consumption in 1111 compared with 1110?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There was a fall.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): If there was a fall may I know from Government what was the reason for that?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Mainly due to economic depression. It is also due to the fact that the number of people who use Ganja is dwindling.

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* *Vide* Appendix IV—page 120

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